

# Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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# RAM'S-HEAD LADY'S-SLIPPER

(*Cypripedium arietinum*)

Federal Status: Not Listed  
State Status: Threatened

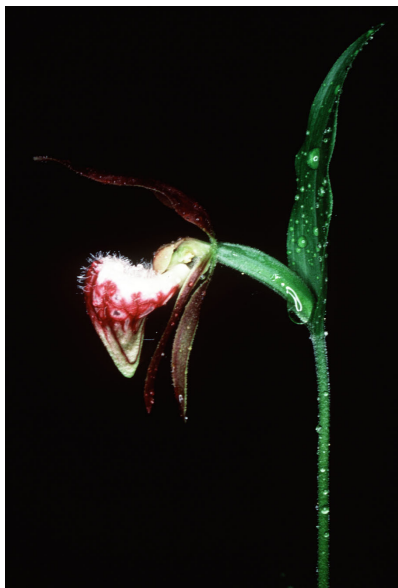
## Description:

The ram's-head lady's-slipper has broad shiny leaves with conspicuous lengthwise folds. It flowers in late May or early June, and may reach 6 to 12 inches tall.

Each blossom consists of

three separate,

petal-like sepals and true petals on the side, all greenish-brown, and a pinkish inflated petal below.



**Habitat:** This rare Wisconsin orchid is usually found in cool coniferous swamps and bogs, as well as in white cedar swales, all in the northern and northeastern parts of the state. In addition,



it is found, rarely, in the pine/aspen/spruce uplands of Ashland County.

**Forestry Considerations:** Ram’s-head lady’s-slipper is intolerant of disturbance, especially erosion and trampling. Single-tree or group-selection silviculture in wintertime would be preferred in areas where this native orchid occurs.

